



# LA ENTRADA COMMUNITY NEWS

Reported by the La Entrada at Rancho Viejo Community Association  
Second Quarter, June 2026

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## COMING UP THIS YEAR

**August 8.....Summer Picnic**

**September ..... Raptor Event**

**December 5 ..... Holiday Party**

*HOA-Sponsored Events*



## ★ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ★

The La Entrada HOA board would like the La Entrada HOA to form a Finance Committee. We are looking for 3-5 people to serve on the committee. The time commitment is approximately one hour per month, though it may increase slightly during financial reporting periods. Responsibilities will be to review the monthly financial statements, as well as the year end financials prior to the annual meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the Finance Committee, please email Serenity Lucero [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com)



**SAVE THE  
DATE...  
Aug. 8**



## In and Around La Entrada

The amenities of the La Entrada neighborhood are many — fresh air, beautiful sunsets, and community parks, all in our own backyard.

Have you walked on the new Arroyo Hondo trail on the north side of the neighborhood? The Arroyo Hondo Trail is a four-mile concrete walkway and bike route connecting the 599 Rail Runner Station and Santa Fe Community College, with easy grades. A paved trail from Mountain Vista Park connects to the Arroyo Hondo trail from the La Entrada neighborhood.

The Arroyo Hondo trail ends at another amazing community resource — The Santa Fe Community College — and there is much the college has to offer residents.

Want to take a yoga, Zumba, or fitness class or swim in an Olympic-sized indoor pool? Then check out the SFCC William C. Witter Fitness Education Center. This 124,000 square-foot facility has everything you need to shape up, assess your health or just relax and enjoy. An indoor track, basketball, pickleball, and tennis courts are also available for use.

Want to take a class or workshop? The continuing education program at Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) offers a variety of noncredit classes aimed at personal and professional development, including studio arts, culinary arts, workforce training, and outdoor adventure. The program is designed to provide flexible learning opportunities for adults and includes options like online courses and Kids Camps for younger learners.

Want to read a book? The SFCC Library now offers Santa Fe County residents the opportunity to borrow books, CDs, and DVDs from the college's academic library collection. Community members must be 18 or older and can apply in person at the library's front desk by providing proof of mailing address. The service is offered free of charge.

Be sure to take advantage of all of these wonderful amenities of the La Entrada neighborhood.

## HOA Meeting Notes

The La Entrada HOA met on June 23rd for the quarterly meeting. Here are some of the highlights from the meeting:

- The Board is open to a Finance Committee to assist the Board in creating the annual budget, reviewing financial statements and other Association financial business. The Committee should consist of at least 3-5 members.
- Native grass trimming in common areas, mainly walkways through the community were a concern. Serenity will contact Proscap to maintain the native grass trimming every 6-8 weeks per the contract.
- Mountain Vista Park does not have a guaranteed date of completion. Materials and labor have caused some delays preventing completion at the end of this season.
- Cass Thompson reported that the hope for the roundabout at Avenida Del Sur and A Van Nu Po is to minimize traffic through Rancho Viejo Blvd.
- Owl boxes to help with the mice throughout the community were requested in common areas. Russ Green will send Serenity more information on the owl boxes for the Board's review and consideration.

### PIZZA AND PIÑATAS IN THE PARK

The weather did not interfere with our spring get-together this year! On May 9th about 50 neighbors, including local firefighters, gathered for Dion's pizza, sodas, and cookies. Several young ones bashed the taco piñata. and (with some help) opened it up to scramble for candy. Thank you to everyone for remembering to bring chairs, eating all the pizza, and taking home extra cookies. It's always a pleasure seeing old friends and meeting new ones.





## La Entrada Annual Bar-B-Que

Last year's summer BBQ was a hit. With hamburgers (beef and vegetarian), hot dogs, sides, sodas, and cake, the crowd mingled and ate. This year's event is August 8, so mark your calendars. We'll be bar-b-queing at the sales office at 26 Calle Ancla.

## Flora and Fauna Photo Contest

Get your cameras and phones and start shooting for another photo contest. This year's subject is Santa Fe Flora and Fauna. The top three photos will be printed and displayed at the BBQ for those present to vote on. The winner will receive a \$50 gift card and will be published in the September newsletter and on our Facebook page.

### PHOTO CONTEST RULES

- One entry per household.
- No professionals, please.
- Email to [slucero@hoamco.com](mailto:slucero@hoamco.com) by July 18.
- Santa Fe locales only.
- La Entrada residents only.
- No watermarks on the photos.

*Have fun with this, folks,  
and we'll see you at the BBQ!*



## Perturbed by Pesky Pigeons?



What to do about those annoying, messy, pigeons? We want to feed those pretty little swallows and finches, but those darned pigeons keep showing up. The first thing to do is look at your feeders. Use a feeder without perches, tube feeders are ideal. Platform feeders are very inviting to the rather bulky pigeon, so rule those out. A seed tray can be very handy. They fit on the bottom of the tube feeders and will catch the extra seeds before they hit the ground. Pigeons love pecking up seeds on the ground so avoid getting seeds on the ground. This will also help with mouse control.

Next, check your feed. Pigeons love millet and cracked corn, so check to make sure your feed doesn't include them. A feed labeled "No Mess" is usually a good idea. Wild Birds Unlimited has a store on Cordova with lots of options for feeders and the proper feed to attract the birds you love while keeping away the pesky pigeons.

## Spring and Summer Highlights

Our group enjoyed lunch on the patio at Pantry Dos in April. We had about 18 attending. Although it can be noisy at times it was still very nice and we made some new friends.

In May we had a strawberry-themed potluck lunch at the RV fire station. Our buffet was mostly delicious desserts, but we did have a few salads and appetizers. It's just a little more fun with a theme to focus on.



May potluck luncheon

We also started a fundraising project for Pillowcases 4 Love. After about a week I was happy to present Julie Hliboki with some cash and donations made online totaling \$480. We received a lovely message from her shortly thereafter.



*“Dear RVLG, Thank you so much for your generosity and support of Pillowcases 4 Love. I am truly grateful for your care about the little ones the pillowcases and blankets bring such joy to. Their smiles speak volumes. Your donations will bring pillowcases, smiles, and love to children in Juarez and Ojinaga, Mexico through Rio Grande Borderland Ministries (RGBM) and to Casa Papa Francisco shelter in El Paso. Casa Papa Francisco is new to us as a venue and part of the Annunciation House community. Their mission is to “accompany the migrant, refugee, and economically vulnerable people of the border.” They reached out to us last week for 4 dozen pillowcases, so the timing of*

*your donations is perfect. Your gifts of love will ripple through shelters, families, communities, and beyond. Thank you for being such an important part of our effort. Wishing you kindness and joy, Julie and Mathew”*

Our June luncheon will be a potluck hosted by Lorri S. Meetings and luncheons are usually scheduled mid-month. Recently I have been choosing Thursdays or Fridays. If you would like to host a luncheon, coffee or other event, please contact me to discuss.

Our RV Ladies Book Club continues meeting every other month. The remainder of our reading list for 2026

APRIL: *In the Shadow of a Man* by Jane Goodall; JUNE: *By Any Other Name* by Jodi Picoult; AUGUST: *Atmosphere* by Taylor Jenkins Reid; OCTOBER: *Shadows on the Rock* by Willa Cather; DECEMBER: *Breakfast at Sally's* by Richard LeMieux.

If you would like to join the book club, please email Diane Gorgy at [rvladiesbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:rvladiesbookclub@gmail.com)

### Rancho Viejo Supper Soirées

There was no supper in April as I was on vacation. Our May gathering was held at Beer Creek Brewing on the patio. Mark & I were unable to attend. We were traveling to Texas to attend to some family probate business. I understand that there were about 20 in attendance, including some new neighbors too!

Our June supper will be at La Plancha Latin Grill. It's one of my favorites. I think we will have a good-sized group.

All are invited and welcome to these mixed group suppers: neighbors in all parts of Rancho Viejo, friends in Santa Fe, couples and singles. We are always looking for substitute hosts. If you are able to coordinate one month of the year, I will manage communication and name tags. Due to my schedule, suppers are planned for Tuesday evenings at 5 PM. On average, attendance is about 16.

To receive announcements about RV Ladies Group events or for RV Gents to be included for suppers, please email Audra at [Mauied85@AOL.com](mailto:Mauied85@AOL.com).

## 2026 Firewise Community Event Recap

### IF NOT YOU



### THEN WHO?

The annual Rancho Viejo Firewise Community Event took place on May 2, 2026. Registration and supplies; including contractor-sized trash bags, gloves, coffee, and donuts were distributed at The Village Park.

La Entrada had 19 registered participants. A huge shout-out to our neighbors who volunteered their time and energy! Together, we helped create defensible space throughout the neighborhood, which is one of the primary goals of the Firewise program. These efforts directly contribute to reducing wildfire risk and improving the safety of our community.

If you haven't already done so, take a walk through some of our open spaces and see the difference your neighbors have made. Several areas show a noticeable improvement, while others still need additional attention and future volunteer efforts. If you have a little time to spare during the coming months, consider helping with light cleanup in these open space areas. Even a small amount of time spent removing dead vegetation and other combustible materials can make a meaningful difference.

#### Areas of notable progress:

- Via Orilla Dorado (backside)
- Via Punto Nuevo (backside)

#### Firewise is an ongoing effort

Firewise is not just a one-day event, it's a year-round commitment. Many of the hours submitted toward Firewise USA certification come from work completed on individual properties throughout the year. Whether you perform the work yourself or hire someone to do it, please report those hours so they can be included in

our annual certification efforts.

Please submit your hours to Serenity (SLucero@hoamco.com) by September 1, 2026. If you need a reporting form, she will be happy to provide one.

#### A heartfelt thank-you goes out to:

- Our volunteers and HOA managers who assisted with registration and supply distribution
- Everyone who participated in the hands-on cleanup efforts
- The Firewise Committee members for their ongoing leadership and support
- Resident Leader Belinda Jentzen (RV South Association)
- FACNM and State Farm Insurance for awarding a \$2,000 grant that helped fund coffee, donuts, gloves, trash bags, and dumpster services
- Estancia Homes for generously providing pizza and beverages following the cleanup event

Together, we are making La Entrada and all of Rancho Viejo, a safer, stronger, and more resilient place to live. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to wildfire prevention.



Via Punto Nuevo  
(backside)  
Before Cleanup



Via Punto Nuevo  
(backside)  
After Cleanup

# *SFCC Library*

## *Community Borrowing*

**SFCC Library is pleased to offer residents of Santa Fe County borrowing of books, CDs, and DVDs from our academic library collection.**

**Bring proof of mailing address  
(current picture I.D. or mail item) to our  
Front Desk and fill out an application!**

**Community borrowing is offered free of charge,  
but patrons must be 18 years or older.**

**For more information, please contact us at  
505-428-1352 or [library@sfcc.edu](mailto:library@sfcc.edu).**





# Be a friend to WILDLIFE



We can safeguard our homes and yards from mice, rats, gophers, and other rodents without the use of hazardous poisons. There are much safer and more effective ways to keep rodents out.

Rodents have many natural predators, from owls and hawks to coyotes and snakes. Our native predators are the most effective long-term solution for keeping rodent populations in check. A single owl can catch more than 1400 mice a year! Rodents are an important food source for other wildlife, and they also benefit plants by dispersing seeds.

Using rodenticides to kill rodents can backfire: poisons will slowly kill off rodents' natural predators, which leads to an increase in the rodent population. Poisoning individual rodents will also cause a spike in the food supply, resulting in quicker breeding among surviving and new rodents.

## Rodenticides Can Poison Children, Pets, and Wildlife

- Rodenticides are poisons that kill rats, mice, and gophers. But they can also kill much larger species, including dogs and cats.
- Rodenticides, or “rat poisons,” are hazardous to anyone who swallows them, especially children.
- Products sold as rodenticides, such as bait stations, pellets, bars, or packs, contain highly toxic ingredients that lack antidotes or medical treatments. Watch for an official warning label on the product:

*“ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS - This product is extremely toxic to fish, birds, and other wildlife. Wildlife feeding on treated bait may be killed. Dogs, cats, and other predatory and scavenging mammals and birds might be poisoned if they feed upon animals that have eaten this bait.”*

- These toxic products cause a slow, painful death for animals who have been exposed.

don't die inside the bait stations but suffer while wandering around in our yards and neighborhoods. As they get weaker and sicker, they become easy prey for their natural predators: owls, hawks, eagles, foxes, and coyotes. Cats and dogs will also have an easier time catching them. When predators or scavengers eat a poisoned rodent, they too will get sick and may eventually die.

### The top five reasons to avoid rodenticides:

1. Children are at risk of accidental poisoning.
2. Cats or dogs may die or become severely ill from eating poisoned rodents.
3. Wildlife may die from eating poisoned rodents.
4. Rodents may die in an inaccessible location in your house; the smell of a dead animal will persist for weeks to months.
5. Poisons don't address the problem: that rodents have access to areas they shouldn't have.

## ACTION TIPS

Be a friend to wildlife: Here's how to avoid poisons.

### TIP #1

**Make your yard less attractive to rodents**

- Keep trash bins tightly closed and remove any refuse from your yard.
- Remove fallen fruit and spilled birdseed.
- Use rodent-proof, above-ground bird feeders.
- Elevate your bird bath above ground level.
- Don't feed dogs or cats outdoors.
- Pick up dog waste

### TIP #2

**Prevent rodent access to your house**

- Seal any cracks and crevices leading into your home. Mice can enter through dime-sized holes. Check around piping and wire entries.
- Use weatherstripping on windows and doors and replace when it ages.
- Keep kitchen counter surfaces, floors, and cabinets free of crumbs and store dry food and pet food in glass containers.
- If you hire a professional to rodent-proof your home, ask whether they are trained in integrated pest management (a holistic approach that starts with the least hazardous method).

### TIP #3

**Create a habitat for natural predators of rodents**

- Plant trees in your yard to make it attractive to birds, including ravens and raptors, that eat rodents.
- Install a barn owl nesting box to naturally control rodents. An owl family can eat upwards of 3000 rodents per year.
- Before you try to attract predators, all use of poison (including by your neighbors) must have stopped at least 3 months before.

### TIP #4

**Be cautious about using non-poisonous products**

- Live trapping (cage traps) and relocation may be complicated; animals may not survive if released far from their capture area. Don't release an animal on someone else's property.
- Never use glue or sticky traps, which are indiscriminate and cause a cruel death for any animals caught in them (including birds).
- Check out commercial birth control products for rats and mice, which can be dispersed in feed stations, such as ContraPest®.

## NEED HELP?

**Neighborhood safety:** If you care about wildlife or if you have pets, find out whether your neighbors use rodenticides and let them know about safer solutions.

**Free hazardous waste drop-off:** bring any poisons and toxins you find on your property to Albuquerque's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center at 6137 Edith NE or call the Household Hazardous Waste Hotline at 505-349-5220.

**Health concerns?** If you suspect that someone may have swallowed a rodenticide, call the Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222. In an emergency, call 911.

### Guidelines to Submit Newsletter Articles

Would you like to write an article for the newsletter? What about concerns or suggestions for the Communication Committee? See below for the guidelines for submissions.

If you have suggestions, ideas, or concerns for the Communication Committee, please send them by email to Serenity Lucero, [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com). She is the contact person for repairs, DRC approvals, traffic, pet issues, complaints, and suggestions for improvement.

If you would like to submit an article for the La Entrada newsletter, please send it directly to Serenity Lucero, our HOA Manager at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com).

Please submit the article in the body of an email, ready for publishing, including proofreading, editing, captions, logos, and active web links. If you have a photo with your article, please submit it separately. Attach both the article and photo to an email to Serenity by the 15th of the month prior to the publication month at the very latest.

If approved by the Communication Committee, you will be notified and the article will go in the next newsletter. If it is submitted after the deadline, it may be placed in the next issue of La Entrada Community

News. Any questions about writing or submitting articles should be directed only to Serenity at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com).

Newsletter publication: La Entrada Community News is usually published around the beginning of the publishing month. It will be announced in an email from Serenity and posted on the La Entrada website at <http://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/home.asp>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Serenity, our HOAMCO Manager of our HOA at [SLucero@hoamco.com](mailto:SLucero@hoamco.com).

#### Deadlines for Submitting Articles for La Entrada Community News

- By Feb. 15th for the March newsletter
- By May 15th for the June newsletter
- By August 15th for the September newsletter
- By November 15th for the December newsletter

### Stay Connected

Has someone new moved onto your block? Have you just arrived? Here are a few resources that will help you or your neighbors stay up to date with La Entrada alerts and activities.

**1.** Our HOA has its own website: <https://www.laentradaatranchoviejo.org/home.asp>. You can find local resources, announcements, and past newsletters here. You can also sign up to receive website and community alerts by contacting Serenity Lucero, our HOA manager, at [SLucero@HOAMCO.com](mailto:SLucero@HOAMCO.com) or 505-924-5978 x2415.

**2.** Stay in the loop with safety and emergency alerts by using Alert Santa Fe at <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/registration/registrationLanding.action>. Alerts include notifications about wildfires and smoke, traffic and road closures, and severe weather. Alerts may also include water advisories, road closures, power outages, evacuations, and lock down situations, etc.

**3.** Finally, if you are on Facebook, you can request to join our private HOA group where members post about their recent outings. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/laentradarv/>

# 2026

# La Entrada Recycling Schedule

## JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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## FEBRUARY

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## MARCH

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## APRIL

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## JUNE

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## AUGUST

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## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

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## NOVEMBER

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## DECEMBER

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### Important dates

Road Runner Waste Service is pleased to provide you with recycling services. Recycling will take place every other week, please refer to the weeks highlighted in green on the calendar above for weeks that recycling service will take place. The day of service will be on WEDNESDAY, same as your regular trash pickup day. If you have any questions regarding your trash and recycling service contact Serenity Lucero, RVN Community Manager at [slucero@hoamco.com](mailto:slucero@hoamco.com) or 505-924-5978 ext. 2415. You may also check [roadrunnerwastemn.com](http://roadrunnerwastemn.com) for additional trash and recycling information.

**TRASH SERVICE IS EVERY WEEK ON WEDNESDAY UNLESS WEDNESDAY IS A HOLIDAY. THEN SERVICES WILL BE MOVED TO THE FOLLOWING DAY.**

### Recycling Weeks

Holiday - Closed (Service that falls on this day is moved to next day and all other days in that week are moved one day)

All recycle items can be placed freely in your recycle cart (not bagged).

Tip: NO LIQUID/FOOD IN ITEMS (REDUCES ODOR)

## Allowed Recycling

### **Metals**

- Tin Cans
- Steel Cans
- Aluminum Cans
- Aerosol Cans

### **Plastic**

- Plastic Two Liter Bottles
- Plastics Labeled #1 thru#7
- Rigid Plastics (i.e. Toys,Hampers)
- Laundry Detergent Bottles
- Shrink Wrap/Plastic Film
- Plastic Bottles/Jugs

### **Paper and Cardboard**

- Soda Boxes
- Milk Cartons
- Corrugated Cardboard
- Cereal/Cracker Boxes (Chipboard)
- Paper Egg Cartons
- Juice Boxes
- Computer Paper
- Shredded Paper (Item Accepted in Clear Plastic Bags)
- Manila Folders
- Catalogs &Brochures
- Books (Hard & Soft Cover)
- All White and Colored Paper
- Newspaper – Including Inserts
- Magazines & Junk Mail
- All Envelopes (Window OK)
- Phone Books

## NOT ALLOWED Hazardous Waste

- Medical Waste
- Carbon Paper
- Blue Print (Old Style, Blue Ink)
- Scrap Metal (Hangers, Wires, Auto Parts)
- Napkins/Paper Towels, Plastic Grocery Bags, Pizza Boxes, Construction Debris, Food Waste/Liquids
- NO Ashes
- Fluorescent Paper
- Green Waste (Grass/Branches)
- Kitchen Utensils
- Food Service Items (Cups/Plates)
- Fast Food Containers/Wrappers, Styrofoam (Egg Cartons/Cups)
- GLASS